

## **Manistee PEG-TV Commission**

June 8, 2015

## **MEETING MINUTES**

- I. CALL TO ORDER Chair Barry Lind called the meeting to order at 6:30.
- II. ROLL CALL Present: Keith Brown, Barry Lind, Kathy Ervin, Dean Kruse, Dale Kolanowski
- III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Approved.
- V. **APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES** As there was no quorum in May, Barry moved, Dean seconded that our April minutes be approved. Approved.
- VI. **CITIZEN COMMENTS** There were none.
- VII. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** See attached. Keith also mentioned that he sent for materials to apply for a grant to DTE to purchase materials and equipment.

Keith also spoke about The Community Access Preservation Act (CAP Act – S. 1244) and reviewed information provided by American Community Television. Essentially, the CAP Act would:

- 1. Remove the distinction between "capital" and "operating" in PEG support fees;
- 2. Make sure local governments can secure funding for PEG channels in exchange for cable operator's use of public rights-of-way and make sure local governments can have PEG channels;
- 3. Make sure that cable operators transmit the PEG channels without charge to the local government;
- 4. Make sure that PEG channels are available on the Basic tier of service and available to *all* subscribers without need for additional equipment;
- 5. Allow communities that have the capability of transmitting in HD, or the latest technology, to have the ability to ask for and receive those advanced technology channels;
- 6. Allow communities that have the ability to submit programming guides to be included in the EPG (Electronic Programming Guide) just like any other channel.

Further information about the act can be found at http://www.acommunitytv.org

## VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

Report on PEG Stations – Keith shared a list of all PEG stations in Michigan. Kathy reported that she had done some research on other PEG organizational structures and that they varied considerably, generally based on their budgets and the population they served.

## IX. **NEW BUSINESS** –

**AES – What do we want to do?** Considerable discussion was devoted to how we should proceed resulting in agreement that:

a. We should proceed to secure Tamara Bushwinka's services in August to facilitate a Strategic Planning Session. (Barry motioned; Dean seconded. Approved.)

Keith will seek the participation of an experienced public access television professional to provide outside knowledge. Said he would contact the Traverse City station to determine if there was someone there to fit the bill.

b. Each of us will contact a PEG station to get information about their structure, budget, operating procedures, etc.:

Barry - Ludington
Keith - Traverse City
Kathy - Cadillac
Dean - Shelby
Dale - Mt. Pleasant

We will report our findings at our next meeting,

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30. The next meeting is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Kathy Ervin, Recording Secretary